





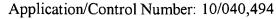
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/040,494	01/09/2002	Hsin-Chi Chen	DED/3098/103	2832
7:	590 02/04/2003			
DAVID E. DOUGHERTY SUITE 1404 5205 LEESBURG PIKE			EXAMINER	
			CHUKWURAH, NATHANIEL C	
FALLS CHURCH, VA 22041			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

3721 DATE MAILED: 02/04/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

		Application No.	Applicant(s)			
Office Action Summary		10/040,494	CHEN, HSIN-CHI			
		Examiner	Art Unit			
		Nathaniel C. Chukwurah	3721			
	The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply					
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely. - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). - Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).						
Status 1)⊠	Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>09 J</u>	anuary 2002				
2a)□		s action is non-final.				
3)	,		nsecution as to the merits is			
3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under <i>Ex parte Quayle</i> , 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. Disposition of Claims						
4) Claim(s) is/are pending in the application.						
4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration.						
5)□	Claim(s) is/are allowed.					
6)🖂	Claim(s) 1 is/are rejected.					
7)⊠	Claim(s) 2-7 is/are objected to.					
8)□	Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or	election requirement.				
Applicati	on Papers					
9)[The specification is objected to by the Examiner					
10)[The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a)□ accep	ted or b)⊡ objected to by the Exar	miner.			
	Applicant may not request that any objection to the		, ,			
11)[The proposed drawing correction filed on		ved by the Examiner.			
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.						
12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.						
Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120						
13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).						
a) All b) Some * c) None of:						
	 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 					
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received. 						
14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).						
a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received. 15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.						
Attachment(s)						
1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) 6) Other:						



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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Garofalo (US 4,300,413).

Garofalo discloses check mechanism for rotary shaft comprising: a ratchet section having a ratchet wheel coaxially fixedly connected with the rotary shaft and multiple ratchets being arranged on a circumference of the ratchet wheel as shown in Figure 3, a click section having a ratchet pawl (50) movable between an acting position and release position (see figs. 4A & 4B) and a locating section for locating the click stem (see fig. 3). Although Garofalo's pawl is not a stem as claimed, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to modify the pawl to stem as desired since the pawl performs the same function as the stem.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 2-7 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

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Van Lenten (US 5,884,538),

Wix (US 4,406,183),

Flynn (US 3,733,936), and

L.E.Kilness (US 3,265,171), all disclose check mechanism.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nathaniel C. Chukwurah whose telephone number is (703) 308-6385. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 6:00AM-2:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rinaldi Rada can be reached on (703) 308-2187. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 305-3579 for regular communications and (703) 308-7769 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1148.

Nc January 30, 2003

> SCOTT A. SMITH PRIMARY EXAMINER